



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

APRIL 15, 2004

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOPLIN MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Joplin, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to possessing child pornography.

Alvin L. Smith, 59, of Joplin, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this afternoon to possession of child pornography.

By pleading guilty, **Smith** admitted that he was in possession of a computer hard drive and computer disks containing child pornography on Oct. 1, 2003. Some of the images, Graves explained, included video clips. **Smith** admitted that he obtained the images on-line and copied some of them to computer disks. **Smith** also admitted that he sent child pornography to another person as an e-mail attachment on June 11, 2003.

Smith agreed to forfeit to the United States the computer, hard drive, software and disks.

Under federal statutes, **Smith** could be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in federal prison without parole due to a prior conviction for sexual assault on a minor in Newton County, Mo., in 1983. **Smith** could be subject to a sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. His sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rose A. Barber. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Jasper County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow